

NEWS

in brief

Officers in Lebanon to be paid bonus

In a show of appreciation for their service in Lebanon, the IDF has begun paying all regular army officers there a NIS 1,000 monthly hardship bonus. The IDF said the bonus will be given only to officers serving in south Lebanon and that all officer ranks would receive the same sum. The move came as A Voice Calling for Peace, a group of mother's of soldiers serving in Lebanon, spent the weekend - which marked the 15th anniversary of Israel's invasion of that country - collecting signatures against the continued IDF presence there. Over 2,000 signatures were reportedly collected. *Arieh O'Sullivan*

Israeli witnesses to appear in Jordan trial

The first group of Israeli witnesses is to testify tomorrow in the trial of Jordanian Pvt. Ahmed Daqamsa, charged with shooting dead seven Beit Shemesh schoolgirls at Naharayim in March. The prosecution said on yesterday.

The court heard witness accounts from six comrades of Daqamsa, who retold details of the killing of the girls, six of them 13 years old and one just 11, at the so-called "Island of Peace."

Judicial experts said the appearance of Israeli citizens in a public trial in Jordan is unprecedented and is made possible by the peace treaty which normalized ties after a 46-year state of war. *Reuter*

Two dead in traffic accidents

Gur Ohayon, 22, was killed on Friday when his car overtook as he left Sdom on his way home to Dimona. He had completed a night shift as a security guard at a hotel in Sdom, leaving at 7:30 a.m. The accident occurred 10 minutes later.

Mordechai Hai, 32, of Jerusalem was killed by a passing car as he changed a tire near the Ben-Shemen interchange while on his way to Tel Aviv on Friday. The driver of the car was detained and released on bail.

Nine people were injured, one seriously, when two jeeps overturned on the Golan Heights yesterday afternoon. The two jeeps were driving on a road near Gamla.

Five people were injured in a collision between two cars in the Tiberias industrial area on Friday afternoon. Three were moderately injured, and two lightly. *Itim*

Murderers try to burn woman's body

The body of a 27-year-old woman was found early yesterday by firefighters in an abandoned building in downtown Jerusalem. Police said the woman had been murdered elsewhere and her body had been taken to the building and set on fire late Friday night in an attempt to hide the crime. The body was taken to the Forensic Institute at Abu Kabir for an autopsy. *Itim*

Three bombs found in Gaza

Three homemade bombs were found near the Gaza Strip's southern border on Friday morning. Border Police sappers safely detonated them. *Itim*

Barak invited to Egypt

By SARAH HONIG

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has invited new Labor Party Chairman Ehud Barak to Egypt as his official guest. A date for the visit is yet to be fixed.

The invitation came during a phone call which Mubarak made to Barak on Friday to congratulate him for having won his party's leadership. Barak has received many mes-

sages and calls from around the Arab world, including a phone call from Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat.

Barak meanwhile made good his promise to assiduously visit Shas strongholds. On Friday, he visited Tel Aviv's Kfar Shalem neighborhood, where he conferred with several dozen invited members of the community, billed as Likud and Shas supporters. The Labor organiza-

tion reported that those who took part in the meeting all told Barak that they had voted for Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu in last year's elections, but now rued their choice.

Barak's interlocutors advised him that he could win neighborhoods like theirs if he would evince a tougher stance vis-a-vis the Arabs and distance himself from Meretz.

Barak will be meeting one of his competitors, MK Shlomo Ben-

Ami, who won 14 percent of the primary votes. Ben-Ami in the meantime has secured for himself an audience with Shas mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef for tonight. Barak has also requested that Yosef receive him, but is still waiting for an appointment to be set.

Barak is also expected to find time this week for the other rivals he defeated in the primary, most of all runner-up Yossi Beilin.

UN: Israel must pay for shelling

By MARILYN HENRY

The UN budget committee, after a hotly-contested debate early yesterday, called on Israel to pay some \$1.7 million in compensation for damages from last year's IDF shelling of a UNIFIL base at Kana in Lebanon.

The sum was to cover the outstanding costs of the Kana incident, including \$880,000 for relocating the Fijian battalion.

During the debate, the US called for a separate vote on the compensation provision. It passed 58-2, with Israel and the US opposing and 52 abstentions, primarily from European nations.

The committee's resolution is expected to undermine Western support for UNIFIL, a source at the Israeli mission to the UN said yesterday. The US, criticizing the politicization of the budget committee, indicated that it would not support the routine renewal of UNIFIL's mandate, the source said.



Friendly match

Mahed Ashkar (left), captain of the Palestinian soccer team, shakes hands with his Jordanian counterpart, Jamal Abu Abed, as they swap pendants before their match yesterday, which inaugurated the PA's \$2.5 million stadium in Jericho. The game, the Palestinian team's first against any international opponent, ended goalless. *(Reuter)*

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

Labor's bloodless war

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Ehud Barak's landslide victory in the Labor primaries dominated this weekend's Hebrew political supplements. It may have been called a bloodless and civilized campaign. Nonetheless, the showdown was a real war and its outcome may change the face of Israeli politics.

Yediot Aharonot's Orly Azulai-Katz made the inevitable comparisons between Barak and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Both are young, ambitious, political loners with a "killer instinct" and a deep yearning for the most powerful position in the state.

Kibbutz-born Barak, with his glorious military track record, is perceived, according to surveys conducted for the article, as more of a real Israeli than Netanyahu. Barak emerged as more honest, trustworthy, and capable of negotiating and handling people than Netanyahu. Katz predicts both Netanyahu and Barak will now vigorously steer for the political center in preparation for the next elections.

Ma'ariv, in a variation on this theme, says Barak has already begun planning his first weeks as prime minister. He has read position papers and has consulted with experts on social, economic, security, and foreign issues. But first, notes Shalom Yerushalmi, the new Labor leader must secure the cooperation of his rivals for the primaries so that the party, with united forces, can launch its real campaign against the Likud.

Yerushalmi also compares Barak's sweeping assault first on Labor's leadership and now on the top slot in the government to Netanyahu's impressive triumph at the beginning of the decade. They were both elected their party's leader three years before the Knesset elections, both got the support of more than 50% of their party members, both arrived at their victory ceremonies with their excited wives, and both called on their rivals to join them in the battle against the real enemy (the other party, then in power, of course).

Haim Ramon, Barak's arch rival in Labor, will now return to head

Labor's dovish camp, becoming the main addressee of Barak's calls for unity, Yerushalmi guesses.

"If Ramon and [MK Yossi] Beilin don't form a camp, I'll make them partners in everything. I need them," Barak is quoted.

Ha'aretz explores the power balance in Labor in the wake of Barak's victory, asking whether the new leader will be able to bring about the necessary change in the party's arid structure which will give it a chance to return to power. In her column, Hanna Kim describes MKs Avraham Shohat and Benjamin Ben-Eliezer as two bridesmaids, who immediately after Barak's victory started pacing behind the bride, jealously clutching her train and not leaving her for a moment. They are especially concerned by the unexpected success of MK Shlomo Ben-Ami, who is considered one of the biggest winners in the primaries.

This Europhilic history professor has become what Foreign Minister David Levy was 20 years ago. Veterans in the party leadership are already pinning the "ethnic" or "social issues" label on his forehead.

Both tabloids highlighted excerpts from two newly published books which attempt to crack the mystery of Netanyahu's personality, past, and meteoric rise to power. *Yediot* printed chapters of *Who are You, Mr. Prime Minister?* by Ronit Vardi and *Ma'ariv* published parts of *Netanyahu: The Way to Power* by Ben Caspit and Ilan Kfir. Both papers provide juicy details of Netanyahu's affairs and marriages.

how he begged his first wife to take him back while carrying on his affair with the second one in the US and another one in Tel Aviv, how he married Sara, his present wife, because she got pregnant and how she threw him out after finding out about his mistress, etc.

Interestingly, the books portray Netanyahu not as an ardent woman-chaser but rather as passive - even nerdy - in his relations with the opposite sex. It is the women who pursue him and initiate the relationships, the authors conclude.

In a well-timed "response" to some of these stories, Sara Netanyahu gave *Yediot Aharonot's* local weeklies a rare interview, in which she tries to settle accounts with the media and her critics. She refutes the existence of an agreement which reportedly set rules for the marital relations between her and Netanyahu after she broke up with him over his affair with Ruth Bar. According to the reports, Sara, who was represented by attorney Ya'acov Ne'eman, said she agreed to reconcile with Netanyahu on condition that he remain completely faithful and take her along on every trip, in Israel and abroad, except for secret missions.

She also denies interfering in his ministerial appointments, like pushing for the appointment of Ne'eman as justice minister. She was also rumored to have vetoed Limor Livnat for a ministerial appointment because she suspected Livnat of having an affair with her husband.

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Speakers: Nomi Bar-Yaacov, Human Rights Attorney

Liesel Gemilholz, South African Human Rights Commission

Daphna Golan, Bat Shalom

Eyad Sarraj, Gaza Community Mental Health Programme

Dan Yakir, Association for Civil Rights in Israel

Photo exhibition: Bosnia... Where Angels Failed to Tread, Nomi Bar-Yaacov

The symposium will be conducted in English.

For further information: 02-5881156.

LIBI - The Fund for Strengthening Israel's Defense

FUND RAISING DRIVE ON LOCAL RADIO STATIONS ON JUNE 26, 1997

As part of its fight against road accidents involving soldiers on leave, the Israel Army has opened a series of courses in advanced driving for new army drivers and other young military personnel.

The Libi Fund for Strengthening Israel's Defense, in cooperation with Israel's local radio stations, will be holding a fund raising day to enable the number of participants in these courses to be increased.

The National Fund Raising Campaign will take place on June 26, 1997 on the following local radio stations:

FM 107.5 Radio Haifa

FM 101 Radio Jerusalem

FM 97 Radio South

FM 103 Radio "Levo Hafsaka"

FM 102 The Voice of the Red Sea

FM 90 Radio "Emza Haderech"

FM 93 Radio "Kol Hai"

FM 99 Radio Hasharon

FM 91 Radio "Lev Hamedina"

LIBI, 17 Rehov Ariana, Tel Aviv 61070, Tel. 03-696-8206, 03-697-5183, 03-569-5610; Fax. 03-697-6743

With deep sorrow we mourn the passing of

GIDEON ARATEN

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, June 8, at 6 p.m. at the Even Yehuda Cemetery.

Rachel, Harry and Yael Devra, Naftali, Assaf and Nittai

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MOLLY BELENKEN 577

Joan and Pesach Krauss Miriam and Yossi Ben-Yashar Chen and Adi David Bodoff Evelyn Schreiber

Funeral will take place today, Sunday, June 8 at 4 p.m. at Eretz Hachaim Cemetery, Beit Shemesh. Bus leaving from Laromne Hotel, Jerusalem at 2:30 p.m. Shiva at the Krauss home, 2 Rehov Bar Nisan, Jerusalem (corner Rehov Kaf-Tel November and Rehov Tel Hai) until one hour before Shavuot.

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and extends its heartfelt condolences to Milada Ayrton and the entire family

Lord Weidenfeld of Chelsea, Prof. Avishay Braverman Chairman of the Board of Governors President

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Her sisters: Becky Davis and family Jenette Hirschman and family

Her brother: Bernard Kirsch and family

We wish to thank her neighbors and all her friends for their caring support and help.

The funeral will be held at 2:00 p.m. in the Rehovot cemetery. Shiva is at the Gillis home, Hanassi Harishon 54/24, Rehovot, until 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

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Government up for grabs as Irish voters reject Bruton

News agencies

DUBLIN — Initial results from Ireland's national election left the government up for grabs yesterday.

Estimates carried out by armies of "tallymen" — activists of the major parties — suggested that voters had dumped Prime Minister John Bruton's three-party coalition but failed to give the opposition Fianna Fail-led alliance of Bertie Ahern a winning mandate.

Voters seemed to have little regard for the unprecedented prosperity the Bruton coalition has brought to the country of 3.6 million people now known internationally as the economic "Tiger of Europe."

The historic rival parties Fianna Fail and Fine Gael made steady gains but their smaller coalition partners were faring poorly. Fianna Fail's electoral ally, the right wing Progressive Democrats of Mary Haney would lose several of the eight seats they hold in parliament. This would leave Fianna Fail leader Ahern casting around smaller parties to win the 85 seats he needs to control the 166-seat Dail or lower house of parliament.

The big loser in the election appeared to be Bruton's key ally, the Labor party of Dick Spring, which has been in government for 10 of the last 15 years. The party could lose up to nine of its 32 seats, and with it the balance of power.

Sinn Fein, political wing of the outlawed IRA, will enter parliament for the first time since the Irish ousted the British to gain freedom in the 1920s. Caoimhghin O Caoilain won a seat yesterday in the border constituency of Cavan-Monaghan, sending signals beyond Ireland's borders to Washington and London, reinforcing Sinn Fein's demand for entry to talks on the future of Northern Ireland. A separate exit poll conducted by the semi-state RTE broadcasting network last night confirmed the tallymen's findings and said the outgoing coalition would win 39.8 percent of total votes and



Observers watch proceedings at a vote-counting center in Dublin yesterday.

the rival alliance 45.5 percent. Official totals weren't expected until at least today because of Ireland's complex electoral system.

An inconclusive result is the outcome most feared by financial markets. Economists say the resultant uncertainty about economic policy and the prospect of a precarious government could cast a shadow over booming Irish markets and worry international investors.

Bruton, the millionaire son of a County Meath farmer, was first elected to the Dail in 1969 at the

age of 22, but despite his experience still exhibits a certain boyish nervousness, social unease and a braying laugh. A big image asset is his close family — wife Finola and four children often feature alongside him on the campaign.

Ahern, 46, a flesh-pressing Dubliner first elected 20 years ago, has risen through the ranks of Ireland's most popular. His image consultants have eliminated his old reputation for floppy hair and ill-fitting clothes, replacing them with slick suits and silk ties. Separated from his wife, he

campaigns alongside his companion Celia Larkin. His campaign director admits this goes down none too well in conservative rural areas where Christian values remain solid.

Ahern, said the London *Guardian*, "is a broad-shouldered man with a bold, glad-handing political style and would make a good and convincing Governor of Massachusetts."

Ireland's brand of proportional representation is designed to ensure that smaller parties win seats. It allows voters to choose candidates by preference — "1,"

DUBLIN NORTH EAST

Algeria poll amid weary disillusion

ALGIERS (Reuters) — The outcome of Algeria's multi-party parliamentary election showed widespread disenchantment among voters, coupled with a demand for change through consensus in the violence-ridden country, diplomats and analysts said yesterday.

"The first party now in Algeria is the one of the Algerians who abstained from voting," analyst Yacine Abdelkrim said.

Western diplomats said the abstention rate of about 45 percent in voting reflected disillusion among large sectors of the population, mostly in the main cities, who had pinned their hopes on President Liamine Zeroual to restore peace and ease economic hardships and corruption.

The National Democratic Party (RND), grouping Zeroual's backers, won 33.69 percent of votes cast, with 155 seats in the 380-seat National Assembly (lower house).

Two legal Islamist parties between them won more than 100 seats.

"Moslem fundamentalism emerged as the great winner of the legislative election. (The two parties) have more than 100 parliament members and can weigh on the country's future policy," wrote Hassane Zerouky, editor of *Le Matin* newspaper, yesterday. Although his party won most

seats, many people feel Zeroual, who wields paramount power in this nation of 29 million people, has not fulfilled the hopes of voters who helped him overthrow Islamist Mahfoud Nahnah and secularist Said Sadi in the presidential poll 18 months ago.

"Zeroual had sparked hope among voters then. But most people feel there has been no improvement in their daily life under the shadow of Moslem guerrilla violence which turned into random terror," said a senior western diplomat.

The Movement for a Peaceful Society (MPS) led by Mahfoud Nahnah, the main Islamist-oriented party since the FIS was outlawed, was way behind the RND in Thursday's poll with 14.8 percent of the vote, giving it 69 seats.

Nahnah won one third of the vote in the presidential poll in 1995.

The second legal Islamist-oriented party, Nahda, emerged as the surprise of the poll with 34 seats. The Nahda movement ranked fourth behind the formerly ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) which gained 64 seats.

Diplomats said the Nahda party had become the niche of hard-core militant Islam in Algeria by winning to its ranks some militants of the outlawed FIS.

Russia may vote on burying Lenin's body

MOSCOW (Reuters) — President Boris Yeltsin yesterday proposed letting Russians decide whether to bury Vladimir Lenin, while parliament approved a union with Belarus, where Lenin fought much of his bitter war to establish Bolshevik rule.

On Russia's southern edge, four Russian journalists were released after three months of captivity in breakaway Chechnya, where local leaders have struggled to maintain law and order after fighting off a Russian military intervention in 1994-96.

In Moscow, the State Duma lower house of parliament voted almost unanimously to ratify a loose union between Russia and Belarus signed last month by Yeltsin and Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko.

Only two deputies voted against the proposal. Most Russians and

Belarusians, nostalgic for the Soviet Union that collapsed in 1991, support integration moves between their two states.

The communist-dominated Duma will not give such a positive response to Yeltsin's latest initiative, however.

In St. Petersburg, Russia's second city, the president made a rare trip on home soil and proposed that voters should decide the fate of Lenin's embalmed body, which is still on display in his mausoleum alongside the Kremlin walls on Red Square.

"I hope we will gradually rid Red Square of its status of a cemetery," Yeltsin told cultural leaders, saying a referendum could be held in the autumn.

Yeltsin has twice appeared on the verge of burying the communist founder of the Soviet Union — in 1991 and 1993 — but each time he let the matter slide.

Leone coup leader sees role for rebels

FREETOWN (Reuters) — The leader of Sierra Leone's military coup said yesterday the army and rebels were fed up with fighting and had joined forces to restore peace to the troubled West African state.

Major Johnny Paul Koromah also said he planned a broad-based government in which Foday Sankoh's Revolutionary United Front (RUF) rebels, who took up arms in 1991, would play a full part.

But ousted civilian president Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, now in neighboring Guinea, said he was optimistic that his supporters and foreign friends would help to restore him as head of state.

Koromah, speaking to Reuters television, said: "They (rebels) are tired of fighting. We need peace and we want it now and we are going to get peace." He added: "Our intention is to form a broad based government of national unity fully incorporating the RUF to restore everlasting peace and sanity throughout the country."

The coup-makers say they are committed to the democratic process and want a negotiated settlement. "We want elections but there are problems that we have to solve," Koromah said, adding that this

would take at least 18 months. The coup was the third in five years in Sierra Leone, one of the world's poorest countries despite mineral wealth such as diamonds, and has been widely condemned.

An Organization of African Unity summit in Zimbabwe called for Kabbah's reinstatement and officials in Ghana said West African leaders might hold an emergency meeting in Nigeria next week.

Nigeria, the regional power, already had troops in Sierra Leone under a defence pact and sent in reinforcements as part of West African efforts to restore Kabbah to power, but dissident army officers said they would not allow him to return.

Kabbah told Reuters in Guinea's capital of Conakry that he expected to be back home "pretty soon."

"I know the people of Sierra Leone are solidly behind me... although we clearly need external help to restore and moreover to maintain law and order," he said.

Jospin, Kohl hold conversation on EU

PARIS (Reuters) — France's new Socialist Prime Minister Lionel Jospin held a long telephone conversation with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Friday to prepare the ground ahead of two summits seen as crucial for the launch of a single European currency.

Aides also said Jospin would accompany President Jacques Chirac to a European Union summit on June 16 and 17 indicating that Jospin wanted to take a high profile in foreign policy, long mostly the preserve of France's president.

But an official in Jospin's office said his presence at the talks would not create problems with the centre-right president.

Despite growing market speculation that the change in French government and a row between Germany's government and central bank could delay the launch of a single currency, EU official Yves-Thibault de Silguy said the project was "irreversible" and would start on time in 1999.

In another sign of intense political activity, French diplomats in Brussels said new Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn would attend a dinner for European Union finance ministers tonight ahead of tomorrow's meeting of finance ministers in Luxembourg.

Jospin's presence at the EU summit in Amsterdam will be one of the first major tests of his so-called *cohabitation* with Chirac, but de Silguy, European Monetary Affairs Commissioner, sought to play down concerns that there would be rifts.

He said on French radio: "France always speaks with a single voice... In general, in other cohabitations, there has been a French delegation led by the president of the republic." Doubts about the new Socialist administration's commitment to the EU's stability and growth pact, designed to keep spending by members of a single currency under control, surfaced when Jospin said in the French election campaign he did not feel bound by its terms.

Clarke favorite for Tory leadership

LONDON (Reuters) — Former British finance minister Kenneth Clarke is favorite to win the first round of voting for the leadership of the Conservative Party, ousted from government in elections on May 1.

Bookmakers William Hill make Clarke 5/6 favourite in Tuesday's ballot of Conservative members of parliament.

William Hague is second favorite at 6/5 with Peter Lilley at 11/2, Michael Howard at 16/1 and John Redwood a 33/1 outsider. All are former ministers.

The leadership contest is however likely to go to a second round between the two leading contenders.

Conservative leader John Major expressed his wish to step down from the job after the Labor Party won a landslide victory in the election.

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מקראות לארבע



HEALTH SCAN

Alleviating joint disease

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Cartilage that has eroded due to age and causes joint pain can be helped to grow again, according to researchers at the Haifa Technion. Dr. Erella Livneh and Dr. Yisrael Blumenfeld of the medical faculty report that injecting a substance that triggers cartilage growth may replace major surgery for the replacement of worn joints. Many old people suffer from joint disease, especially

osteoarthritis, affecting the jaws, knees, thighs and shoulders. In these disorders, the cartilage - which naturally serves as a cushion between the bones - wears away, causing the bones to rub against each other. Movement becomes limited, and severe pain may result. Livneh and Blumenfeld note that since cartilage has no blood vessels and nerves, it has almost no ability to repair itself, so replacement with artificial joints is usually the answer, although it's expensive and requires rehabilitation.

In a pioneering study on jaw cartilage, the Technion researchers found they could halt or slow the process of cartilage destruction by injecting growth factors - protein materials produced by cells. They injected IGF-1 and TGF-beta into elderly mice, and found that they spur the division of cartilage cells and the production of inter-cellular material that comprises over 90 percent of cartilage. Two days later, growth of the cartilage cells was triggered. The jaw joint in mice serves as a

good model because osteoarthritis develops spontaneously in relatively young rodents, as it does in humans, Livneh explains. The researchers hope clinical trials will prove growth factors are effective in humans as well. "It isn't enough to extend life expectancy," she continues. "We must find ways to improve the quality of life. We believe that in the future, we'll be able to inject growth factors directly into problematic joints as an alternative to complicated joint-replacement surgery."

Hadassah sinks its teeth into dentistry

By POST HEALTH REPORTER

Any fund-raiser can tell you that raising money, even for a worthy project, is like pulling teeth. Prof. D. Walter Cohen - a master dentist and a whiz at getting people to commit themselves - led a successful campaign to build a new \$5 million, four-story wing to the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dental Medicine for Israeli students, which will also house a special center where dentists from the region will come to study advanced specialties.

The periodontic expert from Philadelphia didn't have to pull any teeth to make the institution come into fruition, but he invested so much effort in the project that the university decided to name the educational facility - the D. Walter Cohen Middle East Center for Dental Education - in his honor. A professional Bridge to Peace dental conference attended by 1,000 professionals from Israel, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority, North America, Europe and the Far East was held for the occasion.

The new wing on the Jerusalem Ein-Kerem campus - which Cohen saw only on its official opening last week - contains 48 separate offices; instead of working on top of each other, the students are regularly visited in their rooms by lecturers and patients. They are therefore made to feel that they are already independent practitioners while being under strict supervision. Cohen and dental school dean Prof. Adam Stahholz say the new wing is one of the most technologically advanced in the world and by far the best in the Middle East.

The 70-year-old Cohen is not only a dentist, but the son of a dentist. His 96-year-old father Abram was the first periodontist in Philadelphia, opening his practice in 1923. Abram served as the international president of the Alpha Omega fraternity, which was established to provide a place on campuses for Jewish dental students barred in discriminatory times from joining other fraternities. Today, the fraternity, which has some 15,000 members worldwide (including 6,700 in the US and 400 in Israel), has some non-Jewish members as well, but it continues to be dedicated to the tenets of professionalism, Judaism and a pro-Israel spirit.

The HU-Hadassah dental school was founded in 1953 with help from Alpha Omega and moved to the Ein Kerem campus in 1964. Since its founding, it has produced 1,300 graduates. (Fifty percent of the current student body are women.) Prof. Cohen was drafted into the US Navy during World War II, before he had completed his pre-dental training at the University of Pennsylvania, and served as a dental technician/pharmacist mate on an aircraft carrier near Cuba. After the war, he completed his DDS degree at Penn in 1950, winning a research fellowship in periodontology and pathology at Boston's Beth Israel Hospital. He returned to Penn and joined his father's practice until Abram retired in 1970.

During his 35-year career at Penn, he established the department of periodontology, wrote 22 books and over 100 professional articles, conducted pioneering research and became a world-class name in the field. He was also the first dentist to be president and now chancellor of a US medical school (the Medical College of Pennsylvania). Asked about his first recollection of HU, Cohen goes back to 1952, when he attended a fund-raising dinner in Princeton, New Jersey, whose guest of honor was Prof. Albert Einstein.

The genius physicist (a year before his death) kindly acquiesced when a rich man offered to double his contribution if he would shake his wife's hand. "It was a scene I would never forget," Cohen is optimistic that in an era of peace, his namesake center will attract dentists from across the Middle East to study advanced dental techniques. Stahholz notes that during the Bridge to Peace conference, Palestinians expressed much interest in learning about preventive and pediatric dentistry, while Jordanians wanted to apply for courses in implantation and aesthetic dentistry.

The dental school dean concedes that there is a nationwide surplus of dentists, from even before the arrival of 2,000 from the CIS. Most of these had to undergo special training to update knowledge and techniques they had in their native country. But the oversupply is mostly in the larger cities. "Dentists willing to go to development towns and more distant settlements are finding work, and enjoying a high quality of life," says Stahholz. While the dental school doesn't aim at mass-producing dentists in a country where fewer than a third of the residents don't seek their services except to treat an emergency, it does want to constantly update the knowledge of practicing dentists.

Cohen notes that in 20 US states, dentists are required to take continuing-education courses on the latest techniques and materials. "In the other states, there are dentists who graduated

20 years ago but haven't gone to a single course." Continuing education is not, unfortunately, mandatory in Israel - partly due to dentists' opposition - but the dental school hopes to persuade the ministry to launch such an initiative. As in medicine, dentistry has become a highly specialized field, and many general practitioners refer patients to specialists not only because they don't feel confident doing a procedure, but because patients demand one. But then there are those who do implants after minimal training (any dentist is allowed by law to do any dental procedure). The new Ein Kerem wing contains a dental implant center, thanks to the contribution of Dr. Gerald Nisnik of the USA.

Until recently, it was thought that dental problems merely show their presence in physical problems in the rest of the body. But now it is known that numerous disorders - from diabetes to HIV infection - can be detected in the mouth by dentists trained to look for them. Overtreatment, Cohen says, is a problem in all disciplines, and there undoubtedly are dentists who give unnecessary treatment just to make a buck. But these abuses are hard to catch, and to prove. Lasers are the next big thing in dentistry, says Stahholz. While they have been used successfully for years on gums and other soft tissues in the mouth, they will undoubtedly be used to painlessly "drill" dental caries (cavities). The US Food and Drug Administration last month approved a first laser for working on teeth.

But some dentists suggest that these devices are still much too slow and expensive and more prone to error.

Silicon chips break barriers for the disabled

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

The silicon chip has taken the place of the seeing-eye dog as the blind person's best friend. In fact, computers and electronics have begun to have a major impact on the daily lives not only of those with visual disability, but also those with any of a variety of handicaps and several disabilities at once.

Faculty and students at the Jerusalem College of Technology (JCT) - an Orthodox institution of higher learning for men that combines Talmud studies with advanced sciences - are doing their part in adapting the power of the silicon chip to this sector.

"We use technology to help disabled people to function better, not only to make them more independent but to increase their self-confidence and allow them to contribute to society," says Emil Dere, founder and managing director of JCT's four-year-old, non-profit Center of Technology for the Handicapped. Dere, an electronics innovator who served during World War II in the US Navy submarine service, sold his successful electronics company to a Texas conglomerate, retired and moved to Israel in 1972. Volunteering his time, Dere served as chairman of the international board of directors of Keren Or, a Jerusalem school for multi-handicapped brain-damaged, mute and blind children.

Foreseeing the advantages of applying technology to improve the lives of the disabled, he set up the center at JCT. Haviog designed customized devices to help many of the 70 pupils at Keren Or (aged three to 21), the center is now ready to make its clinical resources available to institutions for the disabled anywhere in Israel and the world that need its services.

Among the impressive devices developed by JCT teachers and students are a computerized device that synthesizes Hebrew text into recognizable speech, an infra-red navigation system that helps the blind find their way, and a Hebrew-speaking, easily programmable clock that wakes blind children by speaking their own name.

An anonymous American benefactor has donated the interest on a \$5 million account for financing the Center of Technology for the Handicapped. "Since then, other donors have also joined the effort," says Dr. Yehuda Sonneblick, the center's director of research. Working closely with the faculty, students devote their fourth year to developing a prototype device that will help a Keren Or pupil. "Our aim is technology transfer - adapting existing technologies to make devices for people who will directly benefit from them," he continues.

Asked about the flying eagle he chose as the symbol of the center, Sonneblick - an American-born physicist who can be reached at Sonnebhl@hrachot.jct.ac.il - explains that the bird "stands for our view of the disabled individual as being differently-abled. The eagle humbly reminds us that even our normative human sight and abilities are but limited, compared to its keen eyesight and senses.

"It also represents our goals in working with the disabled towards using each individual's unique abilities to achieve function and freedom as much as possible." The device that reads Hebrew text aloud is called the Wohl Synthesizer, named for its benefactors, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Wohl.

There are a number of foreign devices that turn English text into the spoken language, but Hebrew is especially difficult to adapt for such technology, says Aryeh Teitelbaum, a senior computer engineer at the center and a JCT graduate who is refining the device. "Hebrew," he says, "has a number of sounds that don't exist in a European



An infra-red navigation system helps blind people find their way down corridors.

language. In addition, it includes vowels that must be read along with the letters or the result is full of errors."

Teitelbaum presses a key on his computer to demonstrate how Hebrew would sound without the input of vowels, and it is nearly incomprehensible.

When he introduces additional layers of the program that introduce vowelization, the proper syllables and tone, it nearly sounds human. Using a laptop,

help the blind navigate their way inside buildings. Building locations are coded into digital values, and the codes are transmitted from the ceiling (the transmitters can be above ceiling tiles so they are not unsightly).

The user wears a portable receiving unit, which senses the closest beam and echoes the signal into a building location. He then hears spoken announcements where he is and warned to watch out for stairs or other potential dangers.

Eventually, scanners could be used to enter the text of a newspaper into a computer and then read it to a visually impaired user.

Eliezer Ginsburger, who was born in France and who studied engineering at JCT, has developed software that tests residual vision in the visually disabled.

Using music, geometric figures and bright hues, the program seems like a game to children. But Ginsburger has used it to discover that a Keren Or child believed to be blind to all colors can in fact see red and use it on a screen.

"The program picks up things that one can't get from other tests," he says. "It can also be used for teaching, as shapes and photos of personal objects - like the child's own cup emblazoned with his name - can be used for matching or picking out what doesn't belong in a group."

Another invention is a box that severely disabled mute people can use to speak their minds. Using a simple on-off switch, they can quickly select key words that lead to full sentences that are spoken out in Hebrew, such as: "I want a glass of water." The voice output communication aid (VOCA), says Sonneblick, has a capacity for 27 sentences, "which is a lot for children with such disabilities."

Gluck's Hebrew-speaking clock, which uses a tune to train children in programming the date and time to the proper sequence, could also be useful to elderly people who have difficulty using a conventional clock.

Dere says the JCT center is committed to the effort to empower the disabled using technology. "We have expertise in developing such products; we hope that companies that want to enter the market will contact us."

Rx FOR READERS

By POST HEALTH REPORTER

Is there anything wrong with storing food in an opened tin (covered with plastic film) in the refrigerator for a day or so? I do this from time to time, but my husband claims it's dangerous to health. Z.A., Lod.

Dr. Brian Cousin, a food technologist who heads the Food Service Division of the Health Ministry, comments: Ideally, food should be stored in a suitable plastic container or a container that is as air-tight as possible. If you leave food in a tin or aluminum can for

a day or so, nothing will happen. But leaving food - especially if it's acidic - in an open can in the refrigerator could be harmful, as it starts to oxidize.

The sign of this is that it begins turning black. The metal oxide will eat away at the inside layer of the can, and the food can be contaminated with the metal. Covering the can with plastic film doesn't help, as there is plenty of oxygen in the can. Metal poisoning is accumulative, not a one-time thing, but it can harm young children and older people, and

especially large amounts can cause an allergic reaction. Therefore, don't be lazy. It's best to take food out of a can immediately after opening it, and to keep any remainders in suitable storage containers.

I recently noticed that my 13-year-old son has flat feet, especially the right and less so the left. It was not so when he was younger. Is there any way to bring the arch back up, using inserts in his shoes or exercise? Will someone with untreated flatfoot suffer from back pain as an adult? Why

does having flat feet reduce one's medical profile in the military? C.D., Tel Aviv.

Dr. Shlomo Porat, a pediatric orthopedist at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, replies:

Many people have flat feet without suffering from back pain or other discomfort. But having this condition can reduce one's medical profile in the Israel Defense Forces because it can reduce the person's ability to stand for long periods and to carry heavy burdens.

If only one foot is flat and the other

has a normal arch, the problem could be due to tarsal coalition, in which bones in the foot have fused together. If this is a correct diagnosis - and your son would have to be examined by an orthopedist, who will send him for x-rays - an operation could be needed to separate the bones.

If the situation in both feet is similar, it could be flexible or spastic flatfoot, but this condition, too, would have to be diagnosed by a specialist. In most cases, wearing good strong shoes and possibly a proper insert in one's shoes are the solution. Neither these nor exercise will cause the arch

to re-form in the foot, but flatfoot is a condition that one can live with without difficulty.

Rx For Readers welcomes queries from readers about medical problems. Experts will answer those we find most interesting, and replies will be printed in the twice-monthly column on the Health Page. Write Rx For Readers, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000, fax it to 02-5389527 or e-mail it to justie@post.co.il, giving your initials, age and place of residence. Phoned-in queries will not be accepted.

Storing food in open containers

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Remodeling the dinosaurs

European conservatives may be forgiven for feeling somewhat shell-shocked. Wasn't Socialism supposed to be dead—discredited, free-marketed into history? The annual meeting of European Socialists should be a dusty gathering of old Red warriors, heavy on nostalgia and unrealistic daydreams, like a gathering of Czarist exiles.

Yet there they were this weekend, enthusiastically cheering on the newly elected Socialist leaders of two of the continent's most powerful nations—Britain and France. Yet it was clear that, in the '90s, there is socialism and there is socialism. One is Lionel Jospin's and one is Tony Blair's. While Jospin admitted he had been inspired to victory by Blair's astounding conquest of Britain, Blair's message to the gathered Socialists could have been read as a sharp warning to his French prime ministerial colleague—“modernize or die.”

The return of the Socialists to the European political scene so soon after they were believed to have been marginalized by the collapse of east European Communism should not really have surprised their smug conservative rivals—it certainly surprised no '90s Socialists. The trend already had appeared even more startlingly in the east where state after state has been voting back to power the reformed and renamed Communists of yore. The fact is that in both East and West, a vast number of people remain highly suspicious of the glittering new religion of market-driven growth, and to hell with the hindmost. The multinationals' high-rise churches of glass and steel mean little to the struggling workers in some of glorious Paris's bleak urban slums. The yuppies' glib babble about a global village economy means little to the laid off steel-worker in Coventry, who can't afford the bus fare to the next town.

Journalists have been writing about the surprising muscle the Left still commands—especially after the Blair-Jospin double-armlock now clamped on the European Union. The analyses have been both right and wrong at the same time. Those who are gravely concerned about their jobs, future, or pensions will turn to the Left in search of reciprocated concern. But it is true the Left is so fragmented, it is pertinent to ask “which Left?”

The EU simply will have to take account of the insecurity of millions of its voters across the 15 states of the union. There is not a multimedia computer for riding the information highway in every home. Not every newspaper buyer rushes to the back page to check his or her portfolio. Not everyone is fascinated to read about company CEOs' being paid millions of dollars as unemployment rises and, with union power cracking, the workers' personal contracts look ever more shaky and hollow.

The yuppie culture may have forgotten the lessons of the 1980s, when the rampant and ostentatious greed of the junk-bond driven Western economies gave making money a bad name. The much lauded raw Thatcherism of

Britain left a blighted economic landscape, asset-stripped of human concern for the weak and the have-nots. The Socialists of Britain and France are now reaping the rewards of the voters' refusal to allow progress to be stripped of humanity. It is a trust they dare not squander and in this, Jospin has more to learn than Blair—indeed Jospin should learn rapidly from Blair.

Blair's Socialism is a “whatever works” brand not tried before—an essential modern mix of educated, intelligent pragmatism stripped of ideology, but driven by concern for all the people of the country, not just the money-making minority. It is Clintonism, the near opposite of Thatcherism. It has worked brilliantly so far in the United States—with a jobless figure of some 4.5 percent almost every citizen can feel they are in the game with a chance.

Jospin, on the other hand has a worrying habit of trotting out the old Socialist clichés of a bygone era—solidarity, nationalization, enlarged civil service. This has all the dusty aura of gray offices filled with distinctly uncivil bureaucrats pushing around papers-full of procedures unattached to any known objectives—other than staying behind one's desk until state pension time. “The old left thought the argument was just more spending or regulation,” said Blair. Jospin should have been feeling distinctly uncomfortable. The matter of public spending is likely to be the most troublesome item on his new government's agenda, since his proposed spending spree on major public projects could deplete the national debt over the line allowed for member states to enter the EU single-currency.

“I am very much attached to this idea of public services,” said Jospin. “Market forces cannot solve all our social problems.” Jospin believes public spending on roads, communications, and infrastructure is the way to lay down a solid foundation for the future. He is in danger of forgetting that more Socialism did not solve social problems in the past and are even less likely to do so now or in the future. Blair also sees higher orders of social priority than monetary union and is keeping open his options on joining—but since he is not an ideologue, he is less likely to run into major economic and political trouble than Jospin (who must also cohabit with a powerful executive president). The Left generally supports the monetary system—a unified currency will make Europe a real player as an entity in that great global market so beloved by the rightist free-for-all marketeers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

JEWISH PROTEST

Sir, — A.M. Rosenthal (Opinion, May 13) appropriately protests the failure of the international community to speak out against the PLO's recent reaffirmation of its intention to impose capital punishment on any Palestinian Arab who sells land to a Jew. Such behavior by the PLO is offensive to every decent person, and contradicts the spirit and letter of the Oslo accords it signed with Israel.

Rosenthal is mistaken, however, when he says that the PLO's policy has prompted “no angry faxes flooding in from Jewish groups, except the Anii-Defamation League.” In fact, we at the Zionist Organization of America have repeatedly and publicly protested the PLO's death-to-land-sellers policy since it was first announced by PLO Justice Minister Freith

REPORT CARD

Sir, — I refer to Larry Derfner's column of May 29, “Report card.” An ancient Dutch proverb declares, “The innkeeper trusts his guests according to his own character.” As far as Larry Derfner's trusting attitude towards Israel's real enemies is concerned, he is a classic proof of this Dutch piece of wisdom.

Ramat Gan.

THE DRIVING TEST SCANDAL

Sir, — It if were not so tragic, the recent arrest of driving instructors and testers would be funny. For the last 40 years or more, it has been starkly apparent to all genuine drivers in Israel that non-drivers are being given licenses—without exaggeration—to kill.

With 56 years' driving experience in many countries, I have not encountered the phenomenon prevailing here, of hundreds of thousands of non-drivers behind the wheel. Carnage is, of course, inevitable given that so many are unaware of the highway code and traffic laws, lack road sense and, reacting with hostility to their own ignorance and insecurity, wield like a deadly weapon a vehicle barely under control—formula for an ongoing disaster which is our daily lot.

But the real tragedy is that none of it is or ever was necessary. Bad and dangerous driving has plagued many countries periodically. The remedies are well known and proven. If our police had done their job over the years, thousands of innocents and potential offspring would have been spared, as would families their agony of bereavement and the state not deprived of the contributions of many talents lost.

Ramat Gan.

OPINION



OLEG 97

Arab centaur

URI AVNERY

Greek mythology invented the centaur—half-man, half-horse. It's like what's happening now with the Palestinians.

National liberation movements, which have fought for and achieved independence in our time, have always gone through two distinct stages: An underground struggle up to the moment of liberation, then an independent state.

It's part freedom-fighting movement, part nascent state

national struggle. But in the liberated Palestinian territories many people want an independent press.

POSTSCRIPTS

A SOUTH African chief is feeling more than a little embarrassed after a prized skull he brought home from Scotland was identified as belonging not to his sacred tribal ancestor, but to a middle-aged white woman.

As we saw in Ben-Gurion's day, this style of rule leads to serious problems in an independent state.

When the Palestinian state emerges is when the real debate begins. There are two models: A state like Jordan or Egypt, where democracy is limited, or a true democracy like Israel.

The writer heads the Peace Bloc.

Levels of evil

FELICITY AMOCH

With the recent report that lack of funds may lead to the shelving of the Railway 2000 project, we must be prepared for more carnage on more roads.

However, with tens of millions of shekels going into Route 6, the Trans-Israel Highway, the public cannot be expected to swallow the “lack of funds” excuse forever.

The estimated cost of the Railway 2000 project is a paltry NIS 600 million. This does not even approach the exalted realms of the NIS 3.5 billion cost of the Trans-Israel Highway—an unpopular, unnecessary gash to be carved north to south through our countryside.

public transit, and the reason why all budgets for bus and train improvements have been wiped out.

There have been no studies anywhere in the world showing any toll road of comparable size that has managed to recoup its costs; they have always run at a loss.

Local studies show that most of the traffic in Israel flows east/west, and that another (underused) north/south highway—running virtually down the Green Line—is superfluous.

In road versus rail, who stands to gain from killing the Railway 2000 project? Not you or me

THE most frightening aspect of Route 6 is the planned speed limit of 120 kph.

Western countries such as France are upgrading and streamlining their rail systems.

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



Jeanna Dodd, of Centreville, Virginia, shows a cache of jewelry she found in a soup can she received from a charity kitchen called Food For Others.

Ramat Gan.

سكاننا النعمان

BUY BLUE AND WHITE AND KEEP ISRAEL IN THE PINK!

Clairvoyants take a peek at secretive Swiss banks

Ever wondered how to catch a glimpse of the secret, numbered Swiss bank accounts of fallen dictators like Zaire's Mobutu Sese Seko or the Philippines' Ferdinand Marcos? Forget conventional means, for the vaults of secretive Swiss banks are out of reach of prying eyes.

But another Swiss growth industry provided some other-worldly answers—at an international exhibition of mediums and clairvoyants last month in Geneva, home to the nation's richest private banks and more than 500 soothsayers.

Clairvoyants said they could lay open the bank vaults and take a peek, albeit with the help of cards, pendulums, tarots and sometimes even just by gazing deeply into the client's eyes.

At times, it seemed only those endowed with supernatural powers could hope to unravel the labyrinths of the Swiss banks.

"I see money in the direction of Lausanne. I see a bank facing Lake Geneva. Inside, I see red carpets and worried bankers," intoned Arlene, asked about the

whereabouts of Mobutu's millions.

"I see bank vaults. There are big sums of cash. But I also see jewelry, gold and title deeds," said the French medium.

Fixing her piercing blue eyes into the horizon, she added: "I see a plane on a tarmac. I see people coming here to take the money out. There is a woman involved. A Zairean woman."

Switzerland has blocked Mobutu's assets in response to a demand from a prosecutor in the Democratic Republic of Congo, as Zaire is now called.

Swiss media estimate Mobutu may have squirreled away in Swiss banks up to \$4 billion looted from his mineral-rich African country, but banking authorities will not confirm this.

Letting her pendulum circle over the Zodiac signs on her desk, Arlene offered the assurance: "The money is here. If people ask me, I can locate it with the help of cosmic energy." Much has been said about the life and times of the deposed Zairean dictator, but little as alarming as that revealed

through the mystical powers of the tarot cards of Madame Marina on the relationship between Mobutu and Swiss banks.

The first two tarot cards pulled by this correspondent for Mobutu's lot in life were Money and War.

But the third, slapped down triumphantly by Madame Marina, put Mobutu well and truly beyond the pale: the image of the Devil.

Madame Marina, a wry and sprightly 80-year-old Polish

refugee, had more shocks in store. The tarot cards for the Swiss banks likewise had disturbing revelations.

After two cards denoting Power and Wealth, she turned over the image of the Victim, the Man Hanging from a Tree.

Could it be that Swiss banks will get their fingers burnt in another legal wrangle as Mobutu struggles to keep his hands on his assets, like the court battles raging over Marcos's millions?

French medium Julien gazed deeply into the wallpaper as if for inspiration, past the Swiss couples looking anxiously across the formica table tops at each other, sipping soft drinks and waiting their turn.

"Money will not bring happiness to Swiss banks," he said.

The issue of Mobutu's fortunes comes at a time when Switzerland is trying to repair an image tarnished by its dealings with Nazi Germany and Jewish claims that its banks are sitting on the dormant assets of Jews killed by Hitler.

Madame Marina, whose first

husband, a Polish Jew, died in the Holocaust, said her husband's Jewish family had deposited money in Swiss banks during the war.

She said her pendulum has always showed her husband's family had money in Swiss banks but admitted even her mystical powers were not strong enough against the material power of money.


"Numbers have big powers. Just think how many trillions you can make just by using the numbers zero to nine. This creates a special power for people who deal with money," she said.

For some clairvoyants at the exhibition, the burden of Swiss banking secrecy laws lay too heavily upon them.

"Mobutu has a lot of money here. It involves powerful people who know a lot," said French medium Paul des Templiers.

"But don't expect to get a scoop out of me because these are state secrets in Switzerland. I cannot reveal what I've seen because it would amount to espionage." (Reuters)

Not Page One



Happier with Monday morning blues

By Sam Orbaum

You know what this country needs? No, not a good two-day weekend. Saturday and Sunday: a day of rest, and a day of recreation.

We're not the hard-working, poor-earning sloggers we once were, when we needed six days of productivity to get through a week. Nose-to-the-grindstone socialism is passé. The economy is healthy. Our lifestyle is solidly Western. We've earned the right to savor the good life.

The solution is marvelously simple: add half an hour or an hour to Monday-to-Thursday workdays, reinstitute Friday morning as a short workday, say,

Saturday weekends, is a dud: a hectic half day of running around shopping and preparing (and, if you're going out of town, traveling), followed by a day and a half of rest, if you're religious, or recreation, if you're not.

What this country needs, then, is a day of rest for the secular, and a day of recreation for the religious.

The secular would be more amenable to Shabbat restrictions if they had Sundays as a trade-off, and the religious would have one unstructured day.

Wouldn't we be a happier, more relaxed nation! One day a week, religious and secular min-

three hours, and declare Sunday labor-free. The economy wouldn't suffer much, and might even benefit from increased spending.

Everybody agree?

Right then. Now all we have to do is convince someone at the Knesset to champion the cause.

I wouldn't bother the PM about this; he's been a little preoccupied of late. The Likud wouldn't understand the point of it all, because they lack vision. Labor has vision, but too much of the wrong kind: the party's very name is inimical to rest and recreation. Meretz could never push it through, because they're so fair-minded no one ever really listens to them.

The religious parties. They should take it on.

Shas could clinch it by threatening to bolt the coalition every other week. Aryeh Deri could do it all by himself, you know, with a deal: give me long weekends, plus parliamentary immunity and a villa in Caesarea, and throw in a million bucks, and I'll give you United Jerusalem, a few thousand draft-dodger picks, an attorney-general to be named later and future considerations.

If that doesn't move the government, hardim could throw stones at shops open on Bar-Ilan Street on Sundays. That'll get it done.

Why should the religious camp campaign for increased indulgence, which surely would lead to secular hedonism? Because it won't: a Saturday-Sunday weekend will achieve what religious policymakers want, namely, a decrease in Shabbat desecration.

As it stands now, the only day available to workers for social and cultural indulgence—visits, hikes, sporting events, communal activities, dare I say, Scrabble tournaments—is Saturday. Friday is limited because the clock is always ticking down to the start of Shabbat, which in winter comes in at mid-afternoon.

What we've got now, Friday-

gling together at the zoo, the park, the theater, maybe even the synagogues and the beaches.

Saturday soccer games, long a festering resentment of the Orthodox, may well attract their patronage as Sunday soccer games. The young and mindless could easily adapt to Saturday as disco night. The wrangling over secular rights to Friday-night hobnobbing at bars, pubs and restaurants would be smartly defused by providing a convenient alternative—or let's call it a compromise, to give it more political whump.

The secular sector would soften its antagonism, and the religious would relax its stiff-neckedness. We'd all be less fractious, less frazzled.

It would revolutionize the entire social and cultural structure of Israel.

The religious parties would win widespread acclaim for defusing a spiraling religious conflict. And that would translate into vee-oh-tee-ee-es.

All right, Deri, want to make a deal? You push this thing through, and I'll vote for Shas.

There, I said it.

Sez You!

What's your favorite place in Israel? Your least favorite? What makes it so lovable/hateable? It could be a region, a city, town or park—or one particular spot, say, the Jerusalem-Bnei Brak bus stop, or the view from your office window.

Tell us what you think—with insightful or inciteful comments. With enough response, we'll hold a lively discussion on the subject in an upcoming Not Page One column.

Send your thoughts to Sam Orbaum, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000, by fax to (02) 531-5622 or by email to sam@post.co.il. Please include your name, city and phone number, and specify if you don't want your full name published.

HEADS 'N' TAILS

The three-month-old kitten and the five-year-old dog are quietly sleeping on the same pillow.

They don't always share a pillow. Being feline, the kitten prefers loftier perches and has a distinct liking for a pillow on top of the wardrobe. But today, after exhausting themselves with an hour or so of vigorous romps through the garden and the house, they collapsed side by side. It wasn't always like this. For the first two or three weeks they kept pretty well apart. Only after they learned one another's language could they form a relationship.

Dogs and cats are thought by many people to be "natural enemies." But this is not in fact the case—in most cases, how to communicate. Since animals depend, for the most part, on body language to convey information, it is not surprising that two such separate

Not such strange bedfellows

species would have trouble. After all, we are supposed to be the thinking animal yet we still make the mistake of thinking that a certain expression on a dog's face is a smile when actually it is a grimace showing submission and even fear.

We give a big smile to a monkey and then wonder why it becomes aggressive, not realizing that showing ones teeth is, to primates other than ourselves, an act of aggression, even a threat. Small wonder, then, that when the dog first came up, tail awag,

really dangerous, the attempts to form a relationship started.

But when a kitten puffs up its fur, arches its back and approaches the dog sideways while bounding a good 20 centimeters into the air, the dog doesn't know that it is actually an invitation to play as the kitten would offer another cat.

But another cat would understand at once, what on earth is a dog to think of such behavior?

Admittedly, it is easier to introduce a new animal into the household when one of them is very young, an older dog with a new kitten, an older cat with a puppy.

But that does not mean that two adult animals cannot also learn one another's body language and get along perfectly well.

Usually this takes more time but in the end it almost always works if the human companion stays out of it for the most part and lets the animals proceed at their own pace.

Animals are quick to catch on to new circumstances.

A week before these two began relating to one another, at a time when the dog wasn't even sure she wanted to relate to this spitting ball of paws and claws, the neighbor's dog tried to approach our kitten in the garden and was promptly chased away by the resident landlady-dog.

It might be a nuisance but it's our nuisance and no other dogs need interfere.

In almost every case, except in the case of dogs that have been allowed, even encouraged, to chase cats, things will work out if you give them time.

After all, they have to learn a totally new language and one doesn't learn the nuances of a new language overnight.



DEAR RUTHIE

Dear Ruthie, We are an old couple who bought and moved into our present apartment 12 years ago. We loved it then, and we still do. But our upstairs neighbors—who were already living there when we moved in—make our existence miserable. They are a family of six—the parents in their 50s, the children in their 20s. None of the latter seem marriage-minded.

Some time after we moved in, they caused us suffering that lasted two years, when they added a story to their house, on the floor above us, and in the process removed the roof of the start of the rainy season. (And did it pour that winter!) In addition to the constant overwhelming noise, our ceilings and walls were blackened with mildew until

we were able to whitewash them (at our expense) in the early summer. Our ornaments stank unbearably all winter. They then went to live elsewhere for the duration. We couldn't afford to follow suit.

Furthermore, it seems that these neighbors never sleep. Day and night they walk through their house in heavy shoes. They bang doors, endlessly move their furniture around and use noisy electronic appliances at all hours. They are also fond of loud pop music. (To our minds, classical is the only kind worthy of the appellation "music.") Our ceiling must be paper-thin. Almost everything they do, we hear as if it took place in our own flat. Many are the times when, after dozing off at long last, they wake us up again.

We have asked them tactfully on several occasions to be quiet during stesto hours and after 11 p.m. It has made no difference. Recently I sent them a polite let-

ter. Now it seems they do not even talk to us any more.

Can you give us any advice on how to handle the situation short of having to sell our house and move? At our age, we totally lack the energy to go through that once again.

Nettled by Noisy Neighbors Somewhere in Israel Dear Neighbor-Nettled,

There are two ways to get others to change their behavior: either through external means (i.e. complaining to the authorities) or by possessing internal resolve.

The former is the more costly and nerve-racking of the two. It can also end up being ineffective, particularly when dealing with neighbors, with whom continued contact is inevitable. The latter requires the kind of resolve which is impossible to fake—resolve born not only out of a genuine conviction of the validity of one's position, but also out of a firm disregard for the wrath of others, and fearlessness about the will and power of others to fight back.

Apparently, you have been employing neither. For 12 years, you have been putting up with tremendous inconvenience and expense (to the extent that the legal system would probably rule in your favor), while politely requesting a little consideration.

What strikes me most about your letter is that you have been suffering for so long. On one hand, you claim to be too old to have the energy to move. Yet, you expend incredible amounts of energy just to get through an average day with these neighbors. If selling your apartment is out of the question, you have two alternatives: rent it out, and move to a different rented apartment (which is slightly less committal from a psychological standpoint) or turn to the legal system to assist you in your struggle.

A third alternative, finding

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NEWS

in brief

IDF cans officer who insulted Ethiopian

An IDF major who insulted an Ethiopian soldier seeking medical aid is being forced out of military service and will not be allowed to extend his contract with the army.

Maj. Michael Walitzkin, a logistics officer in the Hermon Brigade, sought to sign on for a further advancement in his military career, but an IDF committee deciding on such matters rejected his request. OC Manpower Maj.-Gen. Gideon Sheffer then ruled that Walitzkin would have to leave the IDF in the coming months.

Walitzkin caused an uproar last March when he told Ethiopian-born Sgt. Avi Azmara that he couldn't be seen by a doctor, and a sign should be posted on the door saying: "No blacks allowed."

Arieh O'Sullivan

British firm buys more Bezeq shares

The British-based Cable & Wireless has increased its holding in Bezeq to 10.02 percent. In recent months its holding had diluted from that figure to 9.86%. The shares were purchased on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

"We have bought the shares as a demonstration of our commitment to Bezeq and to the telecommunications of the Near East region," said Group Development and Regional Businesses director Richard Wainright-Lee.

David Harris

Tira resident killed at entrance to home

A Tira resident was shot dead at the entrance to his home on Friday night. Police said the killer had apparently waited for Ata Abd Elhai, 50, and his family to return from a wedding, and shot him as he entered the home. Police suspect the murder was drug-related.

Itim

Man stabbed in Bat Yam

A 34-year-old man was stabbed on Friday night at a Bat Yam garage, in what police said was a criminal attack. He was taken to Wolfson Hospital in Holon, where his wounds were described as moderate. Police are searching for the assailant.

Itim

Nine arrested in Nazareth brawl

An argument between two drivers in Nazareth on Thursday night over who had the right of way led to a brawl which left nine people in jail and one person in hospital. A Magen David Adom crew took one of the driver's relatives, who was lightly injured, to the Italian Hospital in Nazareth, while police arrested the others involved in the incident.

Itim

3 win Polack Prize for Literature and Culture

This year's Yisrael Polack Prize for Literature and Culture was awarded on Friday to actress Orna Porat, cantorial researcher Akiva Zimmerman, and painter Moshe Rosentini. The prize ceremony was held at Shafoni Aleichem House in Tel Aviv, to mark 81 years since the writer's death.

Itim

Local authorities end strike

By DAVID HARRIS

After striking for a month, workers at some 250 municipalities return to work today following a compromise agreement between their representative Union of Local Authorities (ULA) and the Treasury.

The agreement came early Friday, after a full day of talks between the ULA, Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Interior Minister Eli Suissa, and with intervention from Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

Under the terms of the agreement, the Treasury will make a one-time payment to the local authorities of NIS 300 million this year, of which half is already budgeted for by the Interior Ministry, to be followed by NIS 500m. next year and a further NIS 200m. in 1999. Currently, the municipalities have an overall budget deficit of NIS 4 billion.

The agreement stipulates that these transfers will take place on condition that local authorities balance their books and do not accumulate large deficits, agree to deal with

pay excesses, downsize and implement efficiency drives.

During Friday's cabinet meeting, Netanyahu described the agreement as the opening of a new chapter in relations between central and local government. He also thanked the various ministers who helped in reaching the compromise.

ULA chairman Adi Eldar said the agreement is the first stage of a central government recognition of its responsibility to retain levels of service in local authorities.



Block the road

Some of an estimated 200 protesters pose Friday at a demonstration opposite Tel Aviv's Rehov Arlosorov train station, calling to cancel the Trans-Israel Highway as an ecological disaster and to develop public transportation instead.

WEATHER

Jerusalem 17-29

Haiifa 20-30

Tiberias 20-35

Afula 19-32

Safed 19-32

Tel Aviv 20-29

Jerusalem 19-31

Beer Sheva 18-35

Dead Sea 25-38

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Rise in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

	Low	High	Weather
Amsterdam	16	21	cloudy
Berlin	15	20	clear
Buenos Aires	18	27	clear
Chicago	21	24	clear
Copenhagen	10	15	clear
Frankfurt	16	21	clear
Geneva	16	21	cloudy
Helsinki	10	15	clear
Hong Kong	26	31	cloudy
London	15	20	cloudy
Los Angeles	16	21	cloudy
Madrid	14	19	cloudy
Manila	26	31	cloudy
Moscow	11	16	cloudy
New York	12	17	cloudy
Paris	14	19	cloudy
Rome	16	21	cloudy
Stockholm	10	15	clear
Sydney	14	19	clear
Tokyo	16	21	cloudy
Toronto	15	20	clear
Vienna	15	20	clear
Zurich	16	21	cloudy

Winning cards

The winning cards in Friday's Chance draw (15497) were the nine of spades, jack of hearts, eight of diamonds, and eight of clubs.

Government launches war on pay excesses

By DAVID HARRIS

Legislation will be introduced in the Knesset to make sweeping reforms in public sector pay following the government's approval on Friday of the recommendations of the Kucik report on salary excesses. The issue was brought to the cabinet by Finance Minister Dan Meridor.

The government first discussed the issue in April, but with various ministers - including Interior Minister Eli Suissa, Foreign Minister David Levy, and Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy - opposing the plans, Meridor was asked to enter negotiations with the Union of Local Authorities, which the report claimed was the key guilty party.

It seems likely the compromise that has brought about the end to the ULA strike, also reached on Friday, was linked to the approval of the Kucik report.

In the annual Public Bodies Salaries Report, Treasury director of Wages and Labor

Agreements Yossi Kucik claimed that 62 percent of public-sector bodies paid salaries at least 5% higher than the Treasury-set targets in 1995. A year earlier that figure was 53%.

In approving the report and its recommendations, the government expressed its deep concern at the findings. The measures were approved to ensure the effective enforcement of the law, according to a statement from the cabinet secretary's office.

Among the measures that will be taken are:

- With advice from the Interior and Justice Ministries the Treasury will appoint within 30 days a team that will establish the requirements of the new bill that will outlaw pay excesses.
- The creation of a legal-economic team that will process actions against those thought to be in breach of pay regulations.
- Those in breach will face reductions or total cancellations of grants or other central government payments.

Lieberman: Unity gov't unlikely

By SARAH HOMIG

The formation of a national unity government remains a "very unlikely scenario," according to Director-General of the Prime Minister's Office Avigdor Lieberman.

Lieberman, who was the main Friday night guest on Channel 2's Weekend Magazine, also vehemently denied rumors that he is about to resign his post.

Lieberman did not think that the changing of the guard in Labor makes any difference so far as a national unity government is concerned.

"As things stand, I see no reason for it," he said. "Nothing has changed to make it a more attractive option, and at the same time, how can one even contemplate the thought, when there is so much continuous mud-slinging from the other side and so much malicious maligning?"

He said that "among the factors which indicate strength for a nation, unity is a very major one. A united nation is always perceived outside as considerably stronger than one which is torn by internal dissension and strife. We are ready to contribute towards and to sacrifice for unity, but we are not blind and we are not suckers."

The director-general also denied that both he and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu have undergone a metamorphosis and are now far more peace-oriented than they had been.

"There was no metamorphosis and no need for one to want peace. I am speaking as a settler myself and I am all for a controlled risk. But this indicates no change of attitude towards the Oslo process as such. The Oslo agreements continue to be disastrously bad, and yet they are what we are stuck with," he said.

Lieberman said his red lines are "a Palestinian state, evacuating any settlements or leaving them under Arab rule, and overlooking blatant and flagrant violations of the agreements by the PA, including the failure to do away with the Palestinian Covenant."

Lieberman hotly denied that he has considered resigning or been offered a top managerial position by the Africa-Israel Corporation.

"I never considered stepping down and I will do so only if offered the job I really want - to be a soccer commentator on Channel 2. Otherwise I hope to keep my present job for three more years."

He did report, however, that his wife, Ala, has decided to run for the Likud central committee.

Gesher conquers London

By HELEN KAYE

Tickets to the five performances in the London run of the Israeli Gesher Theater production of Yehoshua Sobol's *Kfar* were sold out weeks in advance of the premiere at the venerable Lyric

Theater, Hammersmith last week.

"The audience is on its feet shouting bravo, and the actors are taking five or six curtain calls every night," said Gesher's Michal Sheffan, who is in London with the company.

Gesher, cited by the British press as one of the world's leading theater

companies, has been touring the UK for five weeks and the play has received rave reviews. The demand for tickets was so great that Sobol himself gave up his own seat to a desperate fan and waited in the foyer.

The Royal National Theater is said to be considering an English-language production of the play, which follows the fortunes of a family on a moshav from the British mandate period to independence.

At the Festival

Jerusalem Theater
 Sifovover - Rustaveli Theater, *Macbeth*, 9 p.m.
 Rebecca Crown - Northern Stage, *Animal Farm*, 8:30 p.m.
 Plaza - puppet theater, 5:45 p.m.; Jerusalem Hora, Israeli dance group, 7 p.m.; Kurdish folk music trio, 8 p.m.
 Foyer - R&B, soul music with Hilary Sergeant ensemble, 11:45 p.m.

A tragicomedy

The thrust of Slava Polunin's *Snowshow* is not humor - it is the human condition. Wearing traditional clown garb and sporting classic Bozo hair, Slava surprisingly opens his show by playing noise over his head in an attempted suicide. Mid-show he is riddled with arrows, writhing on the floor going through "many" death throes. Later, with one arm inside an upright oven, he convincingly becomes two people: accepting himself as the clown that he is and lovingly caressing his own face.

Snowshow, by the author's own admission a tragicomedy, impressively runs the artistic gamut from symbolism and surrealism to impressionism. The touching magical moments that connect you to the clown are not to be missed. Not is the hysterically funny growing spider web that encompassed the whole audience and the biting cold pizzazz that actually causes the crowd to take cover.

Snowshow provides strategically placed belly laughs that keep children and adults laughing. Although it is recommended for ages nine and up, the extremely powerful scenes and poignant commentary are best suited for the mature mind. *Robby Bernick*

RABIN

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LEAH RABIN

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BY LEWIS

Page 10

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